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FOLLOWING REPEAT NATO 3542 SENT SECSTATE SECDEF INFO ALL NATO
CAPITALS USNMR SHAPE USLOSACLANT CINCLANT DATED JUNE 24, 1974

QUOTE

S E C R E T USNATO 3542

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-82

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJ: DPC MEETING, JUNE 24, 1974: PROPOSED FUTURE STRUCTURE
OF THE NETHERLANDS ARMED FORCES

REF: A. USNATO 3492; B. USNATO 3496; C. STATE 134159

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING JUNE 24 DPC MEETING, NETHERLANDS PERM
REP (HARTOGH) ANNOUNCED SEVERAL CHANGES (SEPTTEL) TO FUTURE
DUTCH FORCE STRUCTURE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY NETHERLANDS
AND ASKED THAT DPC CONCLUDE ITS REVIEW SO THAT DUTCH CABINET
COULD MAKE FINAL DECISION ON NETHERLANDS WHITE PAPER JUNE 28.
DPC WILL MEET JUNE 27 TO FINALIZE A QUOTE: PROVISIONAL
JUDGMENT END QUOTE WHICH REFLECTS NATO'S VIEWS ON THE
NETHERLANDS PLAN, AS REVISED, FOR SUBMISSION TO NETHERLANDS
GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. NETHERLANDS PERM REP (HARTOGH) REQUESTED FLOOR AT
BEGINNING OF JUNE 24 DPC MEETING AND DESCRIBED CHANGES (SEPTTEL)

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TO ORIGINAL DUTCH PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE FORCE STRUCTURE.

2. MC REP (ADM MINTER) WELCOMED DUTCH INTENTIONS TO MECHANIZE 5TH INFANTRY DIVISION AND WITHHOLD MANPOWER REDUCTIONS UNTIL SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; SAID NMA'S CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT WITHDRAWAL OF DUTCH HAWK BATTERIES FROM FRG WOULD PRODUCE MAJOR DEFICIENCY OR DANGEROUS GAP IN HAWK BELT; ASKED HOW THE DUTCH PLANNED TO COVER INCREASED PERSONNEL COSTS RESULTING FROM PROPOSED INCREASES IN CONSCRIPT PAY AND MORE RAPID CONSCRIPT TURNOVER; ASKED WHETHER DUTCH INTENDED TO CONTINUE PLANS FOR NEW BRIGADE STRUCTURE PRIOR TO MBFR AGREEMENT AND HOW EXISTING MEMBERS OF PERSONNEL COULD BE USED IN THIS NEW STRUCTURE; ASKED HOW DUTCH AUTHORITIES INTENDED TO DETERMINE OVERTIME PAY FOR SAILORS AT SEA (ON 24-HOUR BASIS); AND SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK SHAPE/SACEUR WHETHER MOST RECENT REVISIONS TO NETHERLANDS PLAN ALLOWED DUTCH TO CARRY OUT THEIR NATO MISSION.

3. HARTOGH REPLIED THAT: ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR INCREASED PERSONNEL COSTS WOULD BE DERIVED FROM CUTS IN DEFENSE SPENDING NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO NATO OR FROM SUPPLEMENTAL DEFENSE ALLOTMENTS; WITHDRAWAL OF HAWK BATTERIES FROM THE FRG WOULD WEAKEN BUT NOT DISORGANIZE THE HAWK BELT; NEW BRIGADE STRUCTURE WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED REGARDLESS OF MBFR AND THAT THE METHOD OF ASSIGNING EXISTING PERSONNEL TO NEW STRUCTURE HAD NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED; AND THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW OVERTIME PAY WOULD BE ALLOTTED TO SAILORS AT SEA.

4. KRAPF (FRG) NOTED HARTOGH'S ADMISSION THAT WITHDRAWAL OF HAWK BATTERIES FROM FRG WOULD WEAKEN HAWK BELT; SAID HE WAS PLEASED AT DUTCH DECISION TO MECHANIZE 5TH INFANTRY DIVISION; BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT NETHERLANDS REQUEST FOR DPC RESPONSE BY JUNE 28.

5. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) SAID THAT REVISED DUTCH PROPOSAL WAS LESS SINISTER THAN ORIGINAL PLAN; SAID THAT DPC ASSESSMENT ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE TOTALLY DISREGARDED ESTABLISHED NATO CONSULTATION PROCEDURES AND THEREFORE COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED A PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT; ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF NETHERLANDS ASSERTION THAT PERSONNEL CUTS WOULD AWAIT SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; AND RECOMMENDED THAT ESSENTIALS OF DRAFT SECRET

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TEXT IN PO/47/84 REMAIN UNCHANGED. SYG LUNS SAID DUTCH ASSERTION THAT THEY COULD NOT MEET EMERGING DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 1980'S HAD NOT BEEN ECONOMICALLY SUBSTANTIATED AND CITED RECENT STUDIES WHICH INDICATE A FAVORABLE ECONOMIC FUTURE FOR NETHERLANDS.

6. RUMSFELD (US) QUESTIONED APPARENT DUTCH PERCEPTION THAT REDUCTIONS IN AIR FORCE AND NAVY PERSONNEL HAD NO BEARING

ON MBFR AND ASKED WHETHER NETHERLANDS INTENDED TO MAKE SUCH REDUCTIONS PRIOR TO A SUCCESSFUL MBFR OUTCOME; ASKED WHETHER THE NETHERLANDS INTENDED TO CONTINUE CONSULTATION WITH NATO EVEN AFTER A SUCCESSFUL MBFR OUTCOME BEFORE CHANGING THE STRUCTURE OF ITS FORCES; NOTED REAL (AFTER INFLATION) INCREASE IN PROJECTED ANNUAL DEFENSE SPENDING BY DUTCH OF ABOUT 1.3 PERCENT AND ASKED WHETHER DUTCH WOULD MODIFY FUTURE DEFENSE SPENDING PLANS TO ATTAIN THIS REAL RATE IF INFLATION TURNED OUT TO BE HIGHER THAN ANTICIPATED 5-6 PERCENT; RECALLED STATEMENTS BY SECDEF SCHLESINGER AND SECDEF REP ELLSWORTH THAT US CONGRESS WAS CONCERNED ABOUT EUROPEAN CONTINUING TO CARRY THEIR SHARE OF BURDEN AND SUGGESTED THAT PARA 6 OF DRAFT TEXT IN PO/74/84 BE AMENDED TO INDICATE DIFFICULTY NETHERLANDS REDUCTIONS IN DEFENSE EFFORT WOULD CAUSE AMONG OTHER ALLIES TRYING TO MAINTAIN THEIR DEFENSE EFFORTS.

7. HARTOGH SAID QUESTION OF HOW TO EFFECT CHANGES IN FORCE STRUCTURE WOULD NECESSARILY BE CONSIDERED AGAIN AFTER CONCLUSION OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS BY ALL ALLIES CONCERNED; THAT REVISED DUTCH PLAN WOULD ENTAIL MORE THAN AN ANNUAL 1.3 PERCENT REAL INCREASE IN TOTAL DEFENSE SPENDING AND THAT EXPENDITURES WOULD BE RAISED TO COVER INFLATION WHILE ADJUSTMENTS FOR INFLATION WITHIN BUDGETARY CAPACITY WOULD BE MADE FOR OTHER DEFENSE SPENDING; AND THAT STUDY BEING PROPOSED BY DUTCH DID NOT DIFFER IN MAJOR WAY FROM THAT PROPOSED BY SECDEF SCHLESINGER IN HIS STATEMENT.

8. ADM MINTER REPORTED THAT MC WAS THOROUGHLY PREPARED TO ACCEPT DRAFT TEXT, WITH DELETION OF PARAGRAPH CONCERNING REDUCTION OF THE FIRST NETHERLANDS CORPS.

9. PECK (UK) RECALLED MOD MASON'S CIRCULATED STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SHARE OF NATO'S DEFENSE BURDEN SHOULD BE BASED
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ON THE ECONOMIC STRENGTH OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND NOTED STRONG ECONOMIC POSITION OF NETHERLANDS; HE BELIEVED UNCLASSIFIED PUBLICATION OF THE DETAILS OF THE DRAFT DEFENSE PLAN WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO NATO. (SYG LUNS THOUGHT PUBLICATION WOULD ALSO HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT IN EASTERN COUNTRIES). PECK URGED THAT A STUDY OF NATO'S DEFENSE POLICY FOR THE 1980'S NOT BE LINKED TO SPECIFIC REDUCTION PROPOSALS. HARTOGH CONCURRED.

10. DE STAERCKE ASKED FOR AN AMENDED PO TO DISCUSS DURING JUNE 27 DPC MEETING AND STRESSED THAT THE PO SHOULD HIGHLIGHT THE PROVISIONAL AND TEMPORARY NATURE OF NATO'S VIEWS.

11. SYG LUNS BELIEVED THE NETHERLANDS WANTED TO CONCLUDE CONSULTATIONS JUNE 27. HARTOGH CONCURRED, STATING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT COULD NOT WAIT AND THAT IT WOULD TAKE A DECISION

ON THE WHITE PAPER JUNE 28. LUNS ASKED IF NETHERLANDS DECISIONS COULD BE CHANGED IN THE COURSE OF FUTURE NATO CONSULTATIONS. HARTOGH REPLIED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO INDICATION IN THE WHITE PAPER THAT "THERE WILL BE FURTHER CONCESSIONS".

12. LUNS SAID THAT NEVER IN THE HISTORY OF THE ALLIANCE HAD SO LITTLE TIME BEEN GIVEN TO NATO FOR CONSULTATION AND NEVER IN HIS TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HAD A COUNTRY PUT SUCH DEMANDS ON NATO. HARTOGH REFERRED TO THE "IMPOSSIBILITY" OF DELAYING A DECISION BECAUSE OF POLITICAL HAZARDS.

13. LUNS, SUMMING UP, SAID: THE DPC ARE OF THE OPINION THAT FINAL JUDGMENT CANNOT BE GIVEN BY JUNE 28 BECAUSE THERE ARE TOO MANY UNCERTAINTIES; THE NETHERLANDS WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE ON THEIR WHITE PAPER ON THE BASIS OF NATO'S PROVISIONAL JUDGMENT; THE NETHERLANDS WOULD CONSIDER FURTHER NATO JUDGMENTS AND MIGHT GIVE SOME EFFECT TO NATO'S VIEWS. HE HOPED THAT AT THE JUNE 27 DPC MEETING HARTOGH MIGHT HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL LEEWAY ON THIS LATTER POINT.

14. DPC WILL MEET THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 27 TO CONTINUE ITS DISCUSSION ON THE BASIS OF AN AMENDED DRAFT TEXT FOR SYG TO FORWARD NATO'S VIEWS TO THE NETHERLANDS. DRC WILL MEET JUNE 25 TO DRAFT AMENDED TEXT, WHICH WE WILL TRANSMIT. RUMSFELD UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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